## Rim of the Valley Corridor Special Resources Study

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

- Where can I obtain a copy of the report?
  - The report and corresponding maps are posted on the National Park Service's website at http://www.nps.gov/pwro/rimofthevalley/.
- How can I share my thoughts with the National Park Service? Why is it important that I do so?
  - The Park Service accepts emails at <a href="mailto:pwr\_rimofthevalley@nps.gov">pwr\_rimofthevalley@nps.gov</a> and postal mail at National Park Service

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     570 W. Avenue 26, #175
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     Los Angeles, CA 90065
  - The Park Service will be considering all comments submitted during the public comment period, which ends on June 30, 2015, and will take them into account when crafting their final report for Congress.
- How would expanding the boundaries of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area affect private property rights and existing local land use authorities?
  - Each of the alternatives would respect private property rights. The National Park Service would only
    have the authority to directly manage lands that it owns. Local land use authorities for lands not owned
    by the National Park Service would not be affected by a boundary adjustment or cooperative
    conservation approaches.
  - The Park Service may only seek to acquire lands from willing sellers. In existing regions within the Santa Monica National Recreation Area, there have been many more willing sellers than there have been resources to purchase land. Proximity to the park has also increased property values for adjacent land.
- Would it affect water rights?
  - No, the proposal would not affect water rights. Management of water supply and treatment plants would continue under current authorities.
- Does the Park Service's draft report recommend that part of the Angeles National Forest be added to the boundary adjustment?

The proposal does not include any U.S. Forest Service managed lands in the boundary adjustment.
 Forest Service lands would continue to be managed by the Forest Service, but the Park Service could be authorized to partner with the Forest Service to provide technical assistance.

## What are the next steps?

Once the Park Service closes its public comment period on June 30, 2015, it will work to prepare its final report to Congress. This is expected to be released in late 2015 or early 2016. This final report would not change current management of boundaries of any recreation area without further action from Congress. The report would serve as a resource for Congress when crafting legislation. Rep. Schiff will work extensively with members of the community to craft the legislation pertaining to these natural resources. Any changes to Park Service authority and the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area would only occur if such legislation is enacted.